

Raising the Power

By Peter David Smith

A long time ago, in a land far away, there was an empire which believed in The Circle. They said that all power in the universe originated from The Circle. The Circle, The Circle, The Circle. All they ever talked about was The Circle.

They had science based on The Circle. They had art based on The Circle. They had religion based on The Circle. They had architecture based on The Circle. Everything was circles. These were The Circle People who lived in the Land of The Circle.

The Circle People lived by the river and spoke of the power of God in The Circle. They taught their children that water is evaporated from the ocean and taken up into the clouds in the sky, from which it rains down upon the earth and makes the river where the people live, and runs back to the sea to complete the perfection of The Circle. All around the whole world.

And thus the houses were round.

And the music went around.

And love went around.

And the people searched in everything.

And they found the way was a Circle.

But there were radical elements who believed in the straight line. They were proud of the fact that they could put a straight line through a circle.

These people were amazed that the straight line had the power to bisect the circle.

They investigated further and found that they could divide the circle into many sectors and slices. They admired the dividing line and they divided themselves into sects which could see the world from different angles but who could also come together at "T" time for cake.

They built straight roads which connected two cities and made many separate sectors of the country which could then pay tribute to the centre.

The new people, The Straights, could divide the land of The Circles in any direction. The Straights now held the power in the world.

But The People had now understood that different power could come from different lines. So they experimented and they found that two lines could CROSS each other.

The equilateral Cross became the new symbol of The Straights and many of them now became known as The Crossers. Then they discovered that the two lines crossing made five points (a centre point and four extremity points on the end of the crossing lines) which formed a blueprint for a square construction with a raised point in the middle: A Pyramid!

So The Circle People had divided and become the different sectors and slices of The Straight People and The Straights had become The Crossers who, in turn, became The Twos, The Squares, and The Pyramids.

Now there was trouble! The Twos believed in the dividing of The Circle into The Two.

They believed that everything in the universe came from the power of The Two. They said that the The Two which can be named is not the eternal Two.

The Straights believed that everything in the universe came from the power of The Straight Line.

The Crossers believed in the Crossing Lines which are Two Lines but which make Five Points when they Cross.

The Squares drew a Square around that Cross and used it as a blueprint for a Pyramid.

The Straights made their soldiers march in a straight line but The Squares formed up in square ranks. The Squares massacred the others until The Circle People surrounded them.

Some people lived in No Man's Land, in between all of The Circles and The Squares and The Straights and The Crossers, The Twos and The Fives and The Pyramids. Amongst them the No Man's Land People had a few anchorites who were sometimes referred to as "The Dots" and sometimes non-aligned types would *join* The Dots to seek The Point of it all. At one stage The Cube People were raised high above most of the others because, like The Pyramid People, they had discovered the Third Dimension.

Soon there were new groups springing up everywhere. The Triangles, The Hexagons, The Snowflake Fractal Mob, The Arc of The Circle People and so on.

In a shadowy institute behind high walls and closed doors a secret group were working the Square of the Hypotenuse.

A series of big wars broke out between the Holy Square/Straight/Cross Alliance and the Believers of The Cube and The Arc.

The poor No Man's Landers were always in the middle of these conflicts.

There were a small minority of No Man's Landers who made a sect out of being in The Middle. They were pacifists who believed that all the conflicts could be settled by finding The Middle of everything.

A small group of advanced thinkers achieved power beyond that of The Cubes by building a functioning Tesseract. They proudly called themselves The Tesseract People until it exploded and took them with it into The Blank Dimension where they became The Blank People, a legendary bogeyman used by parents to scare children into doing their sacred geometry homework.

The remaining Circle People waited patiently, knowing that it would all come back around to them eventually.

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